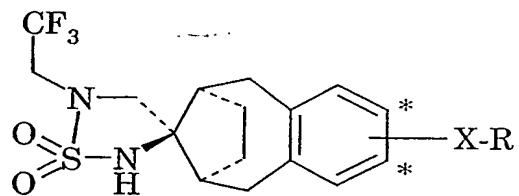


CLAIMS

1. A compound of formula I:



I

wherein the moiety X-R is attached at one of the positions indicated by an asterisk;

X is a 5-(R-substituted)-1,2,4-oxadiazol-3-yl moiety; and

R is selected from:

10 (i) a non-aromatic hydrocarbon group of up to 10 carbon atoms, optionally substituted with halogen, CF₃, CHF₂, CN, OH, CO₂H, C₂₋₆acyl, C₁₋₄alkoxy or C₁₋₄alkoxycarbonyl;

15 (ii) a non-aromatic heterocyclic group comprising up to 7 ring atoms of which up to 3 are chosen from N, O and S and the remainder are carbon, bearing 0-3 substituents independently selected from oxo, halogen, CN, C₁₋₆alkyl, OH, CF₃, CHF₂, CH₂F, C₂₋₆acyl, CO₂H, C₁₋₄alkoxy and C₁₋₄alkoxycarbonyl; and

20 (iii) phenyl or 6-membered heteroaryl, either of which bears 0-3 substituents independently selected from halogen, CF₃, CHF₂, CH₂F, NO₂, CN, OCF₃, C₁₋₆alkyl and C₁₋₆alkoxy; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

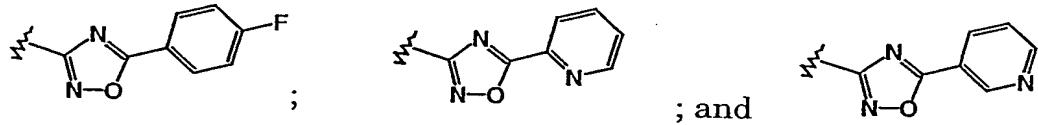
2. A compound according to claim 1 which is homochiral and is [6S,9R,11R]2',3',4',5,5',6,7,8,9,10-decahydro-2-(5-(R-substituted)-1,2,4-oxadiazol-3-yl)-5'-(2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)spiro[6,9-methanobenzocyclooctene-11,3'-[1,2,5]thiadiazole] 1',1'-dioxide, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

3. A compound according to claim 1 or claim 2 wherein R represents phenyl or a 6-membered heteroaryl, either of which bears 0-3 substituents independently selected from halogen, CF₃, CHF₂, CH₂F, NO₂, CN, OCF₃, 5 C₁-alkyl and C₁-alkoxy.

4. A compound according to claim 3 wherein R is selected from monohalophenyl, dihalophenyl, pyridyl, monohalopyridyl and trifluoromethylpyridyl, wherein "halo" refers to fluoro or chloro.

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5. A compound according to claim 1 or claim 2 wherein the moiety -X-R is selected from:



; and

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6. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to any previous claim and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

20 7. A compound according to any of claims 1-5 for use in a method of treatment of the human body.

8. The use of a compound according to any of claims 1-5 in the manufacture of a medicament for treating or preventing Alzheimer's disease.

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9. A method of treatment of a subject suffering from or prone to Alzheimer's disease which comprises administering to that subject an effective amount of a compound according to any of claims 1-5.